

S/N 10/714,355
Amendment dated December 19, 2005
Response to Office Action mailed September 9, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A solid detergent composition comprising:
a solidified mixture comprising:

bleaching agent, enzyme, or bleaching agent and enzyme;

an alkali metal silicate having a $M_2O:SiO_2$ ratio of about 1:1 to 1:5;

about 10 to 80 wt-% of Na_2CO_3 ;

an effective amount of an organic phosphonate hardness sequestering

agent;

about 5 to 20 wt-% anhydrous sodium carbonate;

a binding agent comprising sufficient amounts of hydrated sodium carbonate and phosphonate, to form the composition; and

no second source of alkalinity or less than a solidification interfering amount of a second source of alkalinity;

wherein the mixture hardens to a solid form and the composition provides metal protection.

27. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the enzyme comprises lipase, protease, or amylase.

28. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the bleaching agent comprises an active oxygen source.

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29. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the organic phosphonate comprises:

ammonium(methylenephosphonic acid);
1-hydroxyethane-1,1-diphosphonic acid;
aminotri(methylenephosphonate), sodium salt;
2-hydroxyethyliminobis(methylenephosphonic acid);
diethylenetriaminepenta(methylenephosphonic acid);
diethylenetriaminepenta(methylenephosphonate), sodium salt;
hexamethylenediamine(tetramethylenephosphonate), potassium salt;
bis(hexamethylene)triamine(pentamethylenephosphonic acid);
or mixtures thereof.

30. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the composition is provided in the form of a powder, a pellet, a block, or a mixture thereof.

31. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 to less than about 2.0 moles of water per mole of sodium carbonate.

32. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the organic phosphonate sequestrant comprises a potassium phosphonate present in an amount of about 0.5 to 20 wt-% of the mixture.

33. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the composition comprises about 3 to 20 wt-% of the organic phosphonate and additionally comprises a tripolyphosphate sequestrant.

34. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the composition comprises about 10 to 30 wt-% of the alkali metal silicate.

35. (Previously Presented) A solid detergent composition comprising:

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solidified mixture comprising:

alkali metal silicate having a M₂O:SiO₂ ratio of about 1:1 to 1:5;

about 10 to 80 wt-% of Na₂CO₃, comprising anhydrous sodium carbonate and hydrated sodium carbonate;

organic phosphonate; and

effective solidifying amount of binding agent comprising the hydrated sodium carbonate and the organic phosphonate;

wherein the mixture hardens to a solid form and the composition provides metal protection.

36-40. (Canceled)

41. (Previously Presented) A solid detergent composition comprising; a solidified mixture comprising:

an alkali metal silicate having a M₂O:SiO₂ ratio of about 1:1 to 1:5;

about 10 to 80 wt-% of Na₂CO₃;

an effective amount of an aminocarboxylate hardness sequestering agent;

about 5 to 20 wt-% anhydrous sodium carbonate; and

a binding agent comprising sufficient amounts of hydrated sodium carbonate and aminocarboxylate to form the composition;

wherein the mixture hardens to a solid form and the composition provides metal protection.

42. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 41, comprising about 6-60 wt-% aminocarboxylic acid.

43. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 41, wherein the aminocarboxylic acid comprises n-hydroxyethyliminodiacetic acid, nitrilotriacetic acid (NTA), ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), N-hydroxyethyl-ethylenediaminetriacetic acid (HEDTA), diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA), or mixtures thereof.

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44. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 41, further comprising enzyme.

45. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 41, further comprising bleaching agent.

46. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 41, wherein the composition is provided in the form of a powder, a pellet, a block, or a mixture thereof.